

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of claims 1-31 and 43-45.

Applicants have cancelled claims 32-42 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to file claims similar or identical to these claims in one or more applications claiming priority to the instant application.

With respect to the phrase "polycrystalline materials," it is believed that the specification teaches not only textured polycrystalline materials, but polycrystalline materials in general, including oriented polycrystalline materials. See, e.g., page 11, line 16-27, or page 16, lines 23-27. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the objection to the specification on these grounds be withdrawn.

With respect to the variables α , β , and γ in claims 30 and 31, it is believed that the specification provides antecedent basis for these variables, for example, on page 7, lines 15-24. This, it is respectfully requested that the objection of the specification on these grounds be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

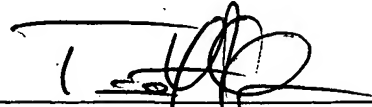
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Respectfully submitted,

By:



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